

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AF-04 ARA-06 NEA-06 /087 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 272021

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA

SUBJECT: KHMER CREDENTIALS AT 29TH UNGA

1. WITH ADOPTION OF ASEAN RESOLUTION, REMAINING HURDLE TO FULLY SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME ON CAMBODIA AT 29TH UNGA IS POSSIBLE CHALLENGE TO KHMER REPUBLIC'S CREDENTIALS WHEN CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT IS SUBMITTED LATER THIS MONTH. IF SUCCESSFUL, SUCH A CHALLENGE COULD LEAD TO EXCLUSION OF KHMER REPUBLIC FROM REMAINDER OF GA AND SET VERY HARMFUL PRECEDENT FOR CAMBODIAN CREDENTIALS QUESTIONS IN UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. WE THEREFORE REGARD DEFEAT OF ANY SUCH CHALLENGE AS HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

2. ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD THEREFORE MAKE STRONG PITCH FOR HOST GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT IN OPPOSING ANY CHALLENGE TO KHMER REPUBLIC'S CREDENTIALS AS THEY DID LAST YEAR.

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(FYI. CHALLENGE AT 28TH UNGA FAILED 50 TO 55 (US) WITH 17

ABSTENTIONS. GREECE AND PORTUGAL VOTED WITH US IN OPPOSING CHALLENGE. END FYI.) YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT US DISAPPOINTED THAT HOST GOVERNMENTS WERE UNABLE TO SUPPORT PRIORITY FOR AND SUBSTANCE OF ASEAN RESOLUTION. WITH DEFEAT ON THESE QUESTIONS NARROWLY AVERTED, PROBLEM WITH CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT NOW ANTICIPATED.

3. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT: (A) CREDENTIALS VERIFICATION TRADITIONALLY VIEWED BY MOST UN MEMBERS AS TECHNICAL MATTER; AND (B) MOST IMPORTANTLY, REJECTION OF KHMER CREDENTIALS WOULD IN PART VITIATE CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION 29TH UNGA HAS TAKEN ON KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE AND WOULD BE CONTRARY TO SPIRIT AND LETTER OF RES 3228 (XXIX) JUST ADOPTED BY THE GA. THE RESOLUTION, WHICH CALLS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE KHMER PARTIES, STATES IN OPERATIVE PARA 3: QUOTE DECIDES NOT RPT NOT TO PRESS FOR

ANY FURTHER ACTION UNTIL MEMBER STATES HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL. UNQUOTE. ANY EFFORT TO REJECT KHMER CREDENTIALS WOULD IN FACT BE JUST SUCH "FURTHER ACTION."

4. YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO DEFEATING ANY CHALLENGE TO KHMER REPUBLIC'S CREDENTIALS, AND TO HOST GOVERNMENTS' SUPPORT (AS LAST YEAR) IN THIS RESPECT.

5. ATHENS MAY WISH TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR GREEK SUPPORT ON FRIENDLY KOREAN RESOLUTION AND VOTE AGAINST HOSTILE RESOLUTION. LISBON MAY WISH TO NOTE OUR APPRECIATION FOR PORTUGUESE VOTE IN FAVOR OF FRIENDLY KOREAN RESOLUTION BUT NOTE OUR DISAPPOINTMENT AT ABSTENTION ON HOSTILE RES, WHICH NARROWLY REJECTED IN TIE VOTE 48-48 WITH 38 ABSTENTIONS.

6. APPROACHES SHOULD BE MADE AT HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTRIES AND RESULTS THEREOF REPORTED BY PRIORITY CABLE, INFO USUN AND PHNOM PENH. GA PLENARY EXPECTED TAKE UP KHMER CREDENTIALS DECEMBER 16. INGERSOLL

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